ISTC 301

Fall 2010 - C. Wood

Final Reflection “Exam”

This is your final assignment - you may complete it on this page then copy and paste this response to your individual wiki page, OR you may answer this in a separate file, upload the file to the wiki, and link the file in your individual page.

**Scenario:**

You find yourself at a job interview for your first teaching position in a public school (of your appropriate grade level). As you are talking to the principal, you ask how much technology is available in the school (i.e. labs, computers in classrooms, interactive whiteboards and the like) and how much emphasis is placed on teachers’ using technology in their teaching. The principal says, “Oh, yes, the teachers have whiteboards and computers in their rooms, but some teachers don’t like them and don’t use them very much. Why do you ask?” So you’re put on the spot, in a sense, to explain why you feel it is important to have up-to-date technology in the school and for teachers to use technology in teaching and in student learning.

**SO**, how are you going to reply to the principal’s query? What will you say about your beliefs in the importance of teaching with technology? Think about some of the knowledge you’ve acquired in this class this semester and some of the issues we’ve discussed, then compose here a reply to the principal’s question. Your answer should be thorough and in good paragraph form (remember this is a job interview) - at least a half-page to full-page length (2 or three well-developed paragraphs). Then, stop and compare your answer here to what you wrote at the beginning of the semester in terms of your beliefs in the importance of technology in education. Have those beliefs changed at all as a result of taking this class? Answer this question at the end of your response - you might want to bold the text or highlight it to set it apart from the rest of the text.

I believe using technology is one of the best things you can do for your students. It not only makes learning fun, but it enhances their ability to retain the information. If students are able to read a passage of a story and then watch it reenacted, they are more likely to remember the details. This will also help to improve the test scores. Students who have to use different varieties of technology to do homework also have more fun completing it. I know in my past experiences, when a professor assigns a homework assignment such as finding websites that relate to a topic, I don’t mind completing it. If the assignment was to find books that refer to a topic, I wouldn’t be as eager to do it.

Technology in the classroom is also a great way to bridge the gap between the different styles of learners. Learners that are more prone to verbal and audio learning would greatly flourish with something that they could hear while they are trying to remember something. Learners that are visual can also benefit from it by something as simple as showing a picture of a historical person if they are in a history class. It would make a big to difference to them to have a face for the name of the person rather than just words.

This doesn’t differ too much from my initial technology theory. One thing that I did learn throughout the semester was that you can reach a lot of your students that learn differently by using different types of technology. I knew it was a fun way to interact and start discussions with your students but I didn’t realize that it can be used to engage so many different types of learners in your classroom.